Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /130 W

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R 281805Z NOV 77 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8787 INFO USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL ROME 19490

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA MEETING OF LIKE-MINDED COUNTRIES

REF: STATE 270172

1. AT LUNCHEON GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR FOR GROUP OF MFA OFFICIALS NOV 28, DIRECTOR FOR DISARMAMENT AND LAW OF THE SEA AFFARIS FERRETTI BROUGHT UP RECENT MEETING OF "LIKE-MINDED/COUNTRIES. FERRETTI SAID THAT WHILE HE UNDERSTOOD THAT LIST OF INVITEES HAD BEEN DRAWN UP TO INCLUDE ONLY COUNTRIES INVOLVED ALREADY IN INTERNATINAL SEABED MINING CONSORTIA, HE FELT THAT ITALY SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN LEFT OUT. FERRETTI ADDED THAT AS ITALY IS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF JOINING SEABED MINING CONSORTIA AND AS IT IS ALREADY A LIKE-MINDED COUNTRY IN ITS VIEWS ON LOS ISSUES, THE ITALIANS SHOULD BE INVITED TO ANY FUTURE SUCH MEETING.

2.IN VIEW OF THE CLOSENESS OF U.S. AND ITAIAN POSITIONS ON LOS AND OF THE IMPORTANCE GOI GIVES TO BEING CONSIDERED ONE OF OUR MAJOR INTERLOCUTORS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES, CONFIDENTIAL

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EMBASSY BELIEVES ITALIANS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE "LIKE-MINDED/ MEETINGS. AN INVITATION FROM US MIGHT HAVE BENEFICIAL IMPACT ON GOI POSITIONS IN THE FEW AREAS OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN US, E.G. PROPOSALS LIMITING ACCESS OF ANY ONE COUNTRY TO SEABED.GARDNER

	Margarat D. Crafold	Declaration / Palaced	LIS Donartment of State	EO Systematic Povicy	22 May 2000
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